

Hi Fans,

Good news today! After months of taping 12 - 14 hours a day, the new album has been completed & should be released this month. It will be released world wide and will no doubt earn K & R another gold record. It's difficult to pick a favorite from the selection of Richard's super arrangements but I'm partial to "I Can Dream Can't I?" Reminds me of the Big Band era. Karen's voice is better than ever and seems to be bigger than she is. Determined to lose weight, she dieted and exercised faithfully, even while on tour and has melted down to a mere 93 pounds. Exhausted from the demands of taping, when she completed the album, she flew to Tortola in the British Virgin Isles to visit friends. While there she was forbidden the telephone and all trade publications and was forced to relax and rest. She arrived back in L.A. an hour before she was scheduled to take off for the next tour. Those of you who have seen her in concert since May 12 probably noticed her beautiful sun tan, a much appreciated souvenir from the Virgin Isles sun. Meanwhile, back in L.A., Richard spent some of his spare time enjoying his motorcycle. In spite of their busy recording schedule, K & R thoughtfully took time to plan a fantastic surprise party for Mom & Dad's 40th wedding anniversary. A roomful of guests greeted the elder Carpenters when they arrived by limo at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. They were surprised to the point of being stunned, as they were under the impression they were meeting K & R only for a quiet family dinner. The white and green floral centerpiece which adorned the banquet table reached end to end and consisted of huge orchids, carnations and appleblossoms and several types of greenery. The 7 course meal included filet mignon, quiche Lorraine and individual chocolate cakes, baked in custard cups and served piping hot topped with a generous scoop of whipped cream. More surprises at gift opening time as K & R's generous gifts topped one another. First to be opened was a luxurious set of sterling silver and gold flatwear. (From friends they received a lovely two drawer chest to house it in. The second unwrapping brought forth a snapshot of their dining room with a tiny pair of curtains and drapes affixed to the window - an indication that they were to receive new curtains and drapes for their Downey home. The next unwrappable item was a gift of a new car to replace the one that had been stolen from a shopping center parking lot. To let them know that a new car would be forthcoming, a huge key (36" long) was created from silver art board glued atop styrofoam. It was placed on a length of chain along with a fob which closely resembled the gold fob on the Carpenter key chain. The last gift to be opened was truly a puzzler for Mom and Dad and it was fun to watch the expression on Mom's face as she tried to figure out what the contents indicated. A tiny sailboat, sporting the Carpenter logo on the sails and flying a minute American flag at the bow, was sailing on a blue tissue paper ocean and heading for a styrofoam flower covered island. This clue meant that they were to take a long dreamed of Caribbean cruise; but Mom and Dad drew a blank on this one until they opened the package that rested beside the tissue paper ocean and discovered the tickets that would make their dream come true. It was a superb party for two people who truly deserved this fantastic celebration.

As promised - here is a thumbnail bio of Cubby O'Brien. His wife's name is Marilyn and they have a daughter, Alicia, 5½. He was born in Burbank, Cal. on July 14 and raised in the Sun Valley, Cal. area. At an early age he joined the Disney Mousketeers and continued with them until they disbanded. As a drummer with Lawrence Welk Jr.'s band, he also sang and danced with Janet Lennon. At the ripe old age of 13 he conducted a big band comprised of adult members and also played with them on drums. He played for a time in Spike Jones Sr.'s band and was featured as drum soloist. He appeared in various TV commercials and did some acting with Clint Walker in "Cheyenne" on TV. At Harrahs club in Tahoe and Vegas he appeared with Ann Margaret and has also been on all her TV specials. Jim Nabors, Juliet Prowse, Sergio Frankie and John Davidson are other celebrities for whom he has drummed and/or conducted orchestra. As a drummer he was a Carol Burnett regular for 5 years and it was on her show that he met K & R when they appeared as guests. This past March he celebrated his second anniversary with Carpenters. Cubby is friendly, though relatively quiet with a dry sense of humor. His hobbies are scuba diving and spear fishing and he enjoys cooking an occasional meal.

Those of you who have had an opportunity to attend a recent Carpenter concert are no doubt delighted with the new program book. K & R were finally persuaded that it should contain some of their baby pictures. There are also a couple pics of Mom And Dad Carpenter, one as they look now and one taken with Richard when he was a baby. And finally there is an excellent pic of the Carpenter Road Family - all 14 of them. Oh yes, one of John Bettis, too. He's the young man that writes the lyrics for much of Richard's music.

Copies of the QLD program book are now available thru the Fan Club for \$1.25. This price includes postage and handling and applies to both U.S. and foreign fans.

"C" posters are now on sale - two for the price of one. (two for \$1.50) So now is the time to replace your sun-faded "C" poster for a new one and get one for a friend. FOREIGN FANS PLEASE NOTE: You, too, may buy two "C" posters for \$1.50. This price includes postage and handling.

NOTE TO JAPANESE FANS: There are tentative plans for a baseball game in Japan between the Carpenter team and Japanese D.J.s. Hope to give you further details in the August Newsletter. Haven't been able to pin anyone down for exact locations of the four games scheduled in the U.S. Please watch your local newspaper or consult your local D.J.s concerning the location of the diamonds on which these games will be played.

We've had numerous inquiries concerning K & R's single "Please Mr. Postman". The question - Why did K & R release "Mr. Postman" at the same time the Boone family released theirs? Answer - Actually, K & R released their version 5 weeks after the Boone family's version was released. However, K & R had theirs recorded several months before they released it. They did NOT get the idea to record "Postman" from the Boone family.

CORRECTION: The new album will be named HORIZON - not HORIZONS as I stated in the last newsletter

Q. Which album has been the biggest seller?

A. In the U.S. - "Close To You" and worldwide - "The Singles".

Q. Has Karen ever tried to teach Richard how to play drums?

A. No.

Q. Have K & R ever appeared at the Troubadour and Whiskey A-Go-Go?

A. Yes - when they were trying to break in to the entertainment field.

Q. What were their favorite high school subjects?

A. The favorite of both was band. Karen was fond of typing and English and Richard enjoyed science.

Q. Did they ever receive any scholastic awards?

A. Richard received an award in the Chamber Music category for his piano playing and Karen received the John Phillip Sousa award for drums.

Q. Do they each have their own doctor?

A. No. They have a family doctor - the same one they've had since they first moved to Cal.

Q. Did they ever have any serious illnesses when they were youngsters?

A. Richard suffered frequent attacks of the croup which at times forced him to fight for breath. As most youngsters do, he outgrew this ailment without any adverse effects. Karen was more fortunate.

Q. Have K & R ever ridden horses?

A. Karen loves horses and rode several times while in high school.

Q. What is their favorite Holiday of the year and why?

A. Christmas. It is the one holiday they know they will be able to spend at home with friends and family.

Q. Was Karen ever a cheerleader in High School?

A. No. She always played in band.

Q. Does Karen have a favorite recipe she likes to prepare?

A. She just loves to cook and has many favorites. Here is one of them:

PEACH MABEL

1 egg	$\frac{1}{4}$ cup sour cream
1 tsp. vanilla	1 box plain gelatin (1 envelope)
$\frac{1}{2}$ pt. whipping cream	$\frac{1}{4}$ cup cold water
4 tbsps. butter	$\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
2 cups peaches	$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt
2 drops almond flavoring	1 box vanilla wafers

Place vanilla wafers in plastic bag and crush with rolling pin, then spread crushed wafers in bottom of glass dish. Mix butter, sour cream, sugar, salt and flavors - blend with blender. Add egg and blend again. Mix gelatin with cold water and blend in with other ingredients. Whip cream and add to other ingredients along with peaches. Pour into vanilla wafer crust and place in refrigerator for several hours.

This is a very tasty dessert and it is a favorite of the Carpenter family and their friends. The vanilla wafers mentioned in the recipe are the little round vanilla cookies made by Nabisco.

Hope to have some tour news next time.

Ev

P.S.: We would like to request that all college students please submit to us your summer address and advise us if you will be returning to the same college in the Fall. If so, we will automatically forward your fan letter to the college in the Fall.